



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



December 2002

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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ILLINOIS, Central

ILZ073

Lawrence

04 0900CST
05 0500CST

0 0 0 0 Heavy Snow

6.8 inches of snow was measured by a cooperative observe in Lawrenceville between 9 AM on 12/04/02 and 5 AM on 12/05/02. Between 6 and 7 inches of snow accumulated across the southeast quarter of Lawrence County from Lawrenceville southeast to the Wabash River. There was little to no blowing and drifting snow with this storm. This was the first heavy snow of the season for Lawrence County. This was also an unusually early heavy snowfall for Lawrenceville, as typically 3.5 inches of snow falls in December.

Scott County

Alsey

17 2345CST
2355CST

0 0 0 Thunderstorm Wind (G70)

Morgan County

**1 SW Jacksonville to
Prentice**

18 0000CST
0020CST

0 0 100K 0 Thunderstorm Wind (G70)

Cass County

Ashland

18 0020CST
0025CST

0 0 0 Thunderstorm Wind (G60)

Menard County

Greenview

18 0035CST
0040CST

0 0 0 Thunderstorm Wind (G55)

A line of severe thunderstorms moved northeast across Western Illinois causing sporadic wind damage. As the storms moved into Alsey (Scott Co.) a large power pole was snapped off and fell across Illinois Route 106 on the south side of town. Several other power poles were broken off about half a mile further northeast along the Alsey/Manchester Road. Also, numerous trees and tree limbs were blown down in this area. When the storms moved through Jacksonville (Morgan Co.), a three mile long path of damage was created. Numerous trees, tree limbs, power lines and power poles were blown down. Some of the fallen trees destroyed several garages, cars and the roof of one house. Also, a 35 foot by 40 foot section of roof was blown off of the Morgan County Courthouse and a 50 foot tall fire dispatch radio tower was blown down. In northeastern Morgan County, near Prentice, a tree and a grain bin were blown over onto power lines. As the storms moved through Ashland (Cass Co.), several trees were blown down but no structures were damaged. In Greenview (Menard Co.), a large tree was blown down onto a house causing minor damage

ILZ056

Coles

18 1620CST
1625CST

0 0 0 High Wind (G38)^M

In Mattoon, high gradient winds blew a 6 foot section of roof off of the high school gym. Several trees and power lines in the area were blown down as well. No injuries were reported.

ILZ041-043>044-046>047-053>057-061>063-066>068-071-073 **Mason - De Witt - Piatt - Vermilion - Cass - Macon - Moultrie - Douglas - Coles - Edgar - Shelby - Cumberland - Clark - Effingham - Jasper - Crawford - Clay - Lawrence**

24 1200CST
25 0400CST

0 0 0 0 Heavy Snow

Heavy snow accumulations between 6 and 8 inches fell across a large part of Central and Southeast IL between noon on 12/24/02 and 4 AM on 12/25/02. The heavy snow accumulations generally occurred east of I-55 with another heavy snow band just east of the IL River across Mason and Cass Counties. There were local 9 inch amounts of snow in Effingham and Sidell (Southwest Vermilion county). The Christmas Eve snow caused numerous vehicle related accidents, especially during the afternoon and early evening of 12/24/02 when 35 to 40 accidents occurred in Champaign county. There were no deaths in Central and Southeast IL, but there were two minor vehicle related injuries in Springfield where snowfall amounts averaged 5 inches. There was only minor blowing and drifting snow with this winter storm. With the exception of Lawrence County, this was the first heavy snow of the season across Central and Southeast IL.